

THE NEW OPERA HOUSE.

Settled Fact That it is to be Built This Fall.

IT WILL BE A MODERN THEATRE.

The Location Selected is on Fourth Street Adjoining the News Building on the North—Ground is Now Being Cleared. Work Will Begin in the Near Future.

That all things come to those who wait, seems about to be verified in the matter of a new opera house in Norfolk. The prospects now are that the present fall will see a magnificent new building erected in this city, constructed upon a modern plan with all appointments up to date, and that it will be one in which the people may take a justifiable pride and be glad to point out to strangers when they visit the city. The new building will be 60 by 100 feet, all of brick, and will be located on Fourth street, just north of and adjoining the News building, the north wall of which will be used to enclose the south side of the opera house. This building will be put up by Mr. F. Warrant, with the backing of the Royal Union Mutual Life insurance company, of Des Moines, Iowa, which has pledged the necessary loan to carry it to completion.

Norfolk certainly needs an opera house if a town ever needed such a building. And it has waited long enough to have a good one, which there seems to be no doubt now that it will have. It is eight or ten years since this city had what might be termed a reasonably large hall to be used for entertainments and public meetings. Previous to that time the old skating rink, which had been seated and provided with a stage, furnished a fairly good hall for those times, but the people thought they ought to have something better, and the patronage of the house gradually declined until it was closed up. About this time the panic swept over the country and not a cent of money could be induced to go into a venture of the kind wanted. Many attempts were made to secure a suitable house for the needs of the city, several times houses being pledged and offered to prospective builders, but each time the effort resulted in a failure. Once or twice parties have offered to erect auditoriums or large halls, but the prospects of having that kind of a building which would for many years prevent the erection of a first class opera house, have not been favorably received, the people maintaining that they would go without until such a time as a building could be put up that would be a credit to the city. That time has now come and the people are about to see the full realization of their hopes.

As stated before, the new opera house is located just north of the News building, with a frontage of 60 feet on Fourth street, extending the full depth of the lot, which is 100 feet. The building will be about 100 feet high, covered with a truss roof, giving the interior the arched appearance which so materially adds to the looks of an opera house. The building will be used exclusively as an auditorium, and the main entrance will be in the center at the front, on one side of which will be located the box office and on the other a cloak room.

The stage, which will be in the rear, will be 30 by 60 feet, with the proscenium arch 24 by 30, on either side of which and under the stage will be the dressing rooms. The full seating capacity of the house will be about 850, the lower floor being arranged to accommodate 400 persons, while the balcony will seat about 450, while there will be four boxes, one upper and one lower on either side. The interior finish and decorations will be first class throughout. The floor will be arranged on an incline and the seats will be opera chairs of the latest pattern, with the possible exception of the rear of the balcony, where it may be decided to use cheaper seats. The building will be provided with three separate exits, in addition to the one from the stage, none opening into each other, and it is estimated that the house can be cleared in from two to three minutes in case of fire or other accident.

The ground is now being cleared for the building. Architect Stitt is busily engaged upon making the plans. Mr. Warrant is a constant visitor among lumber and brick men, and active preparations are being made all along the line to get the work as soon as possible and rush it when it actually begins. While the north wall of the News building will be used to enclose the opera house, the new building will stand upon its own supports and there will be no connection between the two, so that in case of fire in one the other will not be injured.

The new opera house is being put up by Mr. F. Warrant, under the auspices of the Royal Union Mutual Life insurance company of Des Moines, Iowa. Last spring a representative of that company submitted a proposition to the Business Men's association, offering to erect an opera house and invest all the first year's premiums of all business written by his company in Norfolk or vicinity in such a building. This proposition was received with favor by the business men, and considerable work was done to help the project along. Afterward, when it was found that the matter was dragged somewhat, another plan was

proposed, that if the net amount of first premiums on business written could be made to reach the sum of \$3,500, and if the seats for the opening night could be sold for \$4,000, the company would advance a loan on the building of enough to make it cost \$10,000. This is the plan Mr. Warrant has been working on for the past few months, and while he says that the amount of insurance has not been fully taken, nor has the required number of opening night seats been sold, yet he feels that the people of Norfolk have shown their good will toward the enterprise and he believes that they will come forward with the remainder of the agreed sales and, business when he demonstrates that he is acting in good faith, and he knows of no better way to show this than to begin work on the building. Another reason for haste in the matter is that if he expects to have the building completed this season he must begin at once, to get out of the way of cold weather. Hence the active preparations to commence work at once.

Norfolk people will welcome the announcement that the city is to have a modern, up to date opera house. As a class the people of this city are good patrons of amusements, and when the new opera house is completed it will be found that, in the language of the theatre companies, this is "A good show town."

SOUTH NORFOLK.

From Saturday's Daily.

B. Ryel is on the sick list.

J. C. Aid is expected home this evening.

Miss Ella Barrett has just returned from Omaha.

E. W. Ewing has returned from South Omaha.

W. C. Roland has returned from his trip to Omaha.

C. Rasmussen has quit his road and gone to Chicago.

Mrs. R. P. Fleming has gone to Jefferson, Iowa, to visit her parents.

Mrs. Bob Smith and little daughter are visiting her parents at Scribner.

Mrs. Frank Glass has returned to Oskdale, after a short visit with her husband in this city.

Alvin Ham and "Billie" Williams, firemen, have quit the railroad and expect to leave Norfolk soon.

M. S. Swisher, switchman in the yards, has been called home to Lincoln by the sickness of his wife.

Ruth Halverstein's many friends surprised her Thursday, it being her sixth birthday, and the children spent a happy afternoon.

Surprise parties are in order, and a very successful one was given to John Beck Friday evening, being in the nature of a farewell, as he departs next week for the west.

A. Rankin and Miss Vernora Grant were married on Wednesday at Madison, and left on the early train Friday morning for Sioux City. When they return they will go to Scribner to make their home.

A surprise party was given Mrs. H. R. Hibbourn yesterday afternoon by her sister and cousin. Dainty refreshments were served and the guests departed feeling that the party was a decided success.

Real Estate Transfers.

The following transfers of real estate are reported by Chester A. Fuller, manager of the Madison county abstract office at Norfolk:

Herman Hogrefe et al to Elijah G. Dennis wd part of lot 3 block 18 Battle Creek. \$1,475 00

E. B. Jenkins and wife to W. H. Rish wd lot 7 block 3 Dorsey Place. 175 00

W. H. Robinson and wife to Fred L. Wallace wd 44 feet lot 6 block 35 Clark and Madison Mill Co.'s addition to Madison. 1,500 00

William F. Trine and wife to Samuel Rudat wd block 22 Fritz's addition Madison. 200 00

Libbie M. B. Spaulding to George P. G. Spaulding p. c. d. ne 1/4 20, 23, 3. 10 00

Adaline Lewis to Edward & Bradford Lumber Co., wd lots 11 and 12 block 1 Tilden. 300 00

Notice to Land Owners.

To all whom it may concern: The county commissioners of Madison county, Nebraska, having viewed the section line road petitioned for by J. Hoepfinger and others, commencing at the northwest corner of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section nine (9) in township twenty-four (24) north, range four (4) west of the 6th principal meridian, in Madison county, Nebraska, running thence north to the northwest corner of section four (4), aforesaid township and range, and terminating at the intersection with the south line of Pierce county, has reported in favor of the establishment thereof, and all objections thereto or claims for damages must be filed in the county clerk's office on or before noon of the 7th day of November, A. D. 1899, or said road will be opened without reference thereto.

E. G. HELLMAN,

County Clerk.

WANTED—Several bright and honest persons to represent us as managers in this and close counties. Salary \$300 a year and expenses. Straight, bona-fide, no more, no less salary. Position permanent. Our references, any bank in any town. It is mainly office work conducted at home. References. Enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. THE DOMINION COMPANY, Dept. 3, Chicago.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.

Remarkable Action of the Elements in Which Cyclic Tendencies Developed.

From Monday's Daily.

The weather of yesterday was of a rather queer order and presented some rather startling changes. Early in the morning a heavy wind began to blow from the south a dust accompanied by a high temperature of heat that was quite oppressive. Then it began to rain and in the afternoon the wind veered to the northwest and the mercury in the thermometer began to recede toward the bulb as rapidly as it had ascended. About the time the weather commenced to get cooler there were evidences of cyclonic conditions in the neighborhood and the wind several queer pranks.

The barn on the O'Banion property in Edgewater Park addition was one of the victims of Old Boreas' merry capers. The residence is occupied by H. E. Austin and family and the barn was occupied by a team of horses. The wind picked up the barn, raised it up in the air and deposited it over a wagon standing near. The horses were somewhat dazed by their sudden uncovering and, before they discovered the true situation and freedom, were secured.

The racket made by the wind brought the people of the neighborhood to the windows and doors and a rather ludicrous thing happened to the gentleman carrying the greatest amount of surplus flesh of anyone in this part of the country. He also endeavored to see what the disturbance was but in trying to pass through the door got wedged in and could neither get in nor out until the excitement was over.

A residence on the hill near the stand-pipe had the porch torn away and the fence blown down, breaking the posts off close to the ground.

The wind also performed other strange antics and it is understood that considerable disturbance was made by it at Warnerville.

Thunder and lightning accompanied the storm and it was considered by many that it was entirely out of season.

To Cure La Grippe in Two Days.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on every box. 25c.

Got Man and Wheel.

From Friday's Daily.

J. H. Conley returned last evening from Omaha with C. F. Wilson, the man who rented a bicycle from him some months ago, and took it to Omaha. The bicycle was a Queen City and a value of about \$10 is placed on it. The complaint charges Wilson with an attempt to steal the property. Wilson was confined in the city jail pending his preliminary hearing which took place this afternoon, when the prisoner waived examination and was bound over to the district court. He requested to see a member of the Maccabees lodge this morning and it is understood he was referred to Mr. Conley, who is also a member of that order. That order, like many other secret organizations has no use for criminals and if he is guilty of the theft his membership will avail him nothing. County Attorney Tyler prosecuted the case.

The statement that he went by the name of Marshall at the factory and boarding house is incorrect—he used the name of Weinstock and seems to have a full assortment of aliases up his sleeve. In police court he gave the name of Arlington, the same he gave to the police at Omaha. This makes the fourth wheel Mr. Conley has recovered and the third man he has prosecuted for stealing bicycles.

To Cure A Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on every box. 25c.

Southern Literature.

Interesting literature regarding the South is now being distributed by the Southern Railway—"Southern Homes" folders, large map folders, "Land of the Sky" booklets, Southern Fields, "Minerals and Mines" books, etc., mailed free to any address. "The Empire of the South," a very handsome volume of about 200 pages, profusely illustrated, also issued by the Southern Railway, and sent to any address upon receipt of 25 cents, which amount approximates cost of delivery. Address—

Wm. H. TAYLOR,

Ass't Gen'l Pass. Agent, Southern R'y, Louisville, Ky.

Letter List.

List of letters remaining uncalled for at the postoffice October 2, 1899:

Clara Baun, Rev. Lee Dailey, Ida Cren, Chas. U. Humphreys, Chas. Johnson, Alonzo Krug, Franz Koenig, C. P. Reynolds, Bert Simmons, John Summitt, H. Haly, W. L. Lipp, Chas. S. Walker, H. A. White, H. L. Wolf.

If not called for in 30 days will be sent to the dead letter office.

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HON. MANOA B. REESE.

A NEGLECT OF DUTY.

How Governor Holcomb "Settled"

With State Treasurer Bartley.

The failure of Governor Holcomb to make a proper settlement with State Treasurer Bartley in 1895, and the acceptance of a worthless bond, whereby the state lost half a million dollars, is a matter of record that will not soon be forgotten by the people of Nebraska. That Holcomb was to blame for this loss the record clearly shows, his own halting and confused evidence given in the bond trial being the best proof.

The public mind needs only to be refreshed. Holcomb was elected governor in the fall of 1894. Bartley had served two years as treasurer and there was a suspicion that his accounts were in bad shape. The governor-elect was warned by Rosewater and others that the treasurer was a defaulter and that a very careful accounting should be had, to protect the state.

In spite of this warning, and in spite of the law, the new governor plainly entered into a deal with Bartley. After a long private consultation he accepted a new bond upon which most of the old and already accountable balances were qualified for fabulous sums. No attempt was made to examine into the real worth of the bond.

One of the bondsmen was the president of a bank that held over \$200,000 of state money. The bank was not a depository and the deposit was unlawful. Governor Holcomb knew this and yet he accepted this bank president as a bondsman, qualifying in the sum of \$200,000 "over and above all debts and liabilities." The public knew then and knows now that the deposit was unlawful, and that the bondsman was not worth anything like the sum mentioned. The acceptance of the straw bond was bad enough, but the worst part of the deal was in the pretended settlement with the treasurer. The transcript of Holcomb's evidence in the Omaha trial is the best proof, and it is accessible to all.

According to this testimony, Holcomb first held a private consultation with Bartley, and then they entered the treasurer's office, where they remained about two hours. The governor says he looked over a ledger or some such book in which there were some accounts. He is not sure what book or what accounts.

Then Bartley produced a cigar box containing some slips of paper, representing what should have been about \$400,000 in cash. He also produced some \$50,000 in cash. The law required it all to be in cash, but, according to Holcomb's testimony, "the law was a farce and a sham." This testimony is a matter of record.

The governor did not examine the slips of paper closely. He admitted that he did not know sure whether they were genuine. He knew that the one bank which was not a legal depository was represented in the cigar box by a slip calling for over \$200,000.

The story of the "settlement" is best told in the exact words of the record. The case was heard at Omaha in February, 1898. Governor Holcomb was on the stand, and the following extract is from pages 617 to 623 of the record, bill of exceptions:

Question. I ask what he was chargeable with?

Answer. \$500,000 or \$550,000. If I remember rightly; that included the money in suspended banks.

Q. I understand. There was about \$17,000 in cash?

A. Yes, sir; I think so.

Q. That would leave about \$713,000 in loose money?

A. In that neighborhood; I was thinking it was about fifteen thousand; I may not have the exact figures.

Q. I will ask you again what it was he brought these papers that you call certificates of deposit out in?

A. Well, as I remember, it was a little box.

Q. Cigar box?

A. Something of that shape.

Q. Of the balance of this, outside of the \$17,000 he produced none of it in cash—or if it was \$50,000, you may say it may be?

A. No, sir; no different from what I said.

Q. He followed a few questions as to what Holcomb had testified to on a former occasion, and the examination continued.

Q. He opened this box that was like a cigar box; did he show you these papers he had?

A. I do not remember that it had any cover.

Q. And then took out papers that he called checks and certificates of deposit, did he?

A. He took out mostly certificates of deposit. There may have been a few checks.

Q. Have you a list of these?

A. No, sir.

Here followed some questions covering the same ground, and the examination concluded as follows:

Q. And then he brought out a box that looked like a cigar box, from which he took a lot of papers that he called certificates of deposit, amounting from \$440,000 to \$450,000.

A. I do not know whether he called them certificates of deposit or not; they were certificates of deposit mostly. There may have been some bank checks.

Q. He showed you the papers?

A. He showed me the certificates of deposit.

Q. You looked them over and took no list of them?

A. No, sir; I took no list of them.

Q. Took no memorandum of them?

A. No, I took no memorandum of them.

Q. And you turned them back to him and he put them back in the cigar box and went off with them, is that right?

A. He put them in the vault.

Q. Did you see him put them in the vault?

A. I will not say positively that I did.

Q. And that was the end of the examination?

A. Yes, that was the end of it.

The man who gave this weak and halting testimony—who accepted a worthless bond—who made an illegal settlement with a defaulter and official—who declared the law of the state to be "a farce and a sham," and by his failure to enforce it caused the state to lose half a million dollars, is now a candidate for a place on the supreme bench.

The people will not be deceived the second time. The record is open for their investigation. They will decide to place a jurist on the bench. The professional politician with the unsavory record will not be given further opportunity.

THE REPUBLICAN LEADER.

Hon. M. B. Reese, Candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court.

Judge M. B. Reese has been a resident of Nebraska 23 years. He is a native of Illinois, having been born in Macomb county in 1839. He received a common school education and being desirous of further culture attended a seminary for two years, paying his own expenses. During that period he developed the spirit of independence and self-reliance characteristic of all men who attain eminence. His father was a farmer and the son followed the same occupation until he was 24 years old.

Meanwhile Mr. Reese had married and settled down, but an accident occurred which disabled him for life.

Mr. Reese then commenced the study of law. Shortly after the breaking out of the war he enlisted, but when he came to undergo the physical examination necessary, much to his chagrin, he was rejected because of the injury referred to. He then again applied himself to the study of law and was admitted to practice in March, 1865. He practiced in Osceola, Ia., until 1871, when he came to Nebraska. He has lived in Plattsmouth and Wahoo and now in Lincoln.

Judge Reese was elected a member of the state constitutional convention in 1875 and assisted in framing our present constitution. In the following year he was chosen for state senator by the Republicans of his district, but he declined the nomination. In the fall of 1876 he was elected district attorney of the then Fourth judicial district and was re-elected in 1878 and again in 1880, practically without opposition.

In November, 1883, Mr. Reese resigned his position, lacking two months of holding it six years. In the fall of 1883 he was nominated for the position of supreme judge and was elected, remaining on the bench for six years.

About six years ago Judge Reese was appointed dean of the law department of the State University of Nebraska, which position he still holds.

For University Regents.

Dr. W. B. Ely was born in Boston in 1842. His parents died while he was quite young. He began the study of music at an early age and taught music in the female seminary at Canandaigua, N. Y., several years also in the female seminary at Rome, Ga. He commenced studying medicine at Rome, Ga., and entered the college of medicine at the University of Michigan in 1876, graduated in 1878, practiced medicine in New York until 1889, when he removed to Ansonia, N. H., where he has resided ever since. Dr. Ely was a candidate for state senator in the Fourteenth district in 1896, on the Republican ticket, and cut a majority of 1,000 down to 250. He is considered one of the brightest and best physicians in northwest Nebraska, having a very large practice in Brown and surrounding counties. He is a good citizen and highly esteemed by all.

Edmund C. McGilton, nominee for regent of the State university, was born in Wisconsin 40 years ago. When he was 13 years old his father moved on a farm and from then on his boyhood and youth was that of a farmer's son. He attended the State University of Wisconsin, graduating therefrom in 1883, and afterward the law department of the same institution, from which he graduated in 1885. In 1888 he came to Omaha and engaged in the practice of law and has since practiced his profession there ever since, and has attained a position in the estimation of his fellow jurists which can be placed second to that of but few lawyers in the state.

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